

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66611

DRAFTED BY: ARA/USOAS-GNMONSMA:BJF

APPROVED BY: ARA/USOAS-GNMONSMA

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R 262324Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ATLANTA

UNCLAS STATE 086365

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAN JOSE 1618 ACTION SECSTATE 25 APR.

QUOTE

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1618

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: FACIO PRESS CONFERENCE

1. IN HIS FIRST MEETING WITH THE PRESS AFTER HIS RETURN FROM THE UNGA, MFM, AND OAS MEETINGS, FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO REPORTEDLY CHARACTERIZED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S GENERAL ATTITUDE AS FLEXIBLE AND THE MEETINGS THEMSELVES AS IMPORTANT, BUT HE APPARENTLY SPENT THE GREATER PART OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE TELLING ABOUT HOW HE HANDLED THE STEVEDORES' BOYCOTT THREAT. HE DESCRIBED HOW ONLY HE HAD BECOME UPON RECEIVING INFORMATION ABOUT THE STEVEDORES' BOYCOTT CABLE AND HOW SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD "REPUDIATED" THE STEVEDORES' POSITION. WITH REGARD TO CUBA, FACIO SAID, "THERE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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AN EASING OF TENSIONS WITH LATIN AMERICAN BY FIDEL CASTRO,"

AND RECOMMENDED THAT THE OAS CUBAN SANCTIONS
POLICY BE REVISED.

2. NEWSPAPERS QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM WHAT
APPEARS TO BE FACIO'S OAS SPEECH. IN THE SPEECH FACIO

REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED THE STEVEDORES' BOYCOTT AS A "DRAMATIC
EXAMPLE" OF THE KIND OF ECONOMIC COERCION THAT
NEEDS A MECHANISM OF RECOURSE FOR AFFECTED STATES.
FACIO REPORTEDLY CALLED FOR SOLIDARITY AMONG
COUNTRIES THREATENED BY ECONOMIC AGGRESSION FROM
GOVERNMENTS OR "PRIVATE ENTITIES." FACIO SAID
ALL THE LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD EXPRESSED
THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH COSTA RICA AND THE BANANA
PRODUCING COUNTRIES FACED WITH THE BOYCOTT THREAT.
LANE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, THREATS, BOYCOTTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE086365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GNMONSMA:BJF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740100-0856
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974049/aaaaahsw.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 SEP 2002 by BryanSD>; APPROVED <31 DEC 2002 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FACIO PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, CS, CU, (FACIO)
To: ATLANTA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005